

# HOW TO FOLD OUR NATION'S FLAG

ILLUSTRATIONS BY SETH FRAIL

OUR NATION'S FLAG HAS BEEN WAVING OVER MILITARY INSTALLATIONS, FEDERAL OFFICE BUILDINGS AND OUTSIDE OF AMERICANS' HOMES FOR MORE THAN 200 YEARS. AS MILITARY MEMBERS, WE SHOULD TAKE GREAT CARE WITH THE STARS AND STRIPES FOR IT IS RICH IN HISTORY AND A SYMBOL OF PRIDE FOR OUR COUNTRY. ONE SUCH WAY TO HONOR THE FLAG IS TO KNOW HOW TO PROPERLY FOLD IT.



1. HOLD THE FLAG WAIST HIGH. FOLD THE LOWER STRIPED SECTION OF THE FLAG OVER THE BLUE FIELD. THE FOLDED EDGE IS THEN FOLDED OVER TO MEET THE OPEN EDGE.



2. A TRIANGULAR FOLD IS THEN STARTED BY BRINGING THE STRIPED CORNER OF THE FOLDED EDGE TO THE OPEN EDGE. THE OUTER POINT IS THEN TURNED INWARD PARALLEL WITH THE OPEN EDGE TO FORM A SECOND TRIANGLE. THE TRIANGULAR FOLDING IS CONTINUED UNTIL THE ENTIRE LENGTH OF THE FLAG IS FOLDED IN THIS MANNER.



3. WHEN THE FLAG IS COMPLETELY FOLDED, ONLY THE BLUE FIELD SHOULD BE VISIBLE AND IT SHOULD BE FOLDED IN THE TRIANGULAR SHAPE OF A COCKED HAT.

## FLAG FOLDING CEREMONY

A SCRIPT IS NOW AVAILABLE FOR USE DURING FLAG FOLDING CEREMONIES. THE NEW SCRIPT FOCUSES ON FLAG HISTORY AND ITS SIGNIFICANCE TO THE AIR FORCE AND IS AVAILABLE, ALONG WITH A DEMONSTRATION VIDEO, AT BASE PROTOCOL OFFICES. FOR MORE INFORMATION, CONTACT YOUR LOCAL PROTOCOL OFFICE OR BASE HONOR GUARD.

## FOR MORE INFO:

FOR MORE INFORMATION ON THE PROPER CUSTOMS AND COURTESIES OF OUR FLAG, CHECK OUT AIR FORCE PAMPHLET 36-2241 PAGES 123-135, OR DOWNLOAD AT [WWW.E-PUBLISHING.AF.MIL/PUBFILES/AF/36/AFPM36-224V2/AFPM36-224V2.PDF](http://WWW.E-PUBLISHING.AF.MIL/PUBFILES/AF/36/AFPM36-224V2/AFPM36-224V2.PDF).